



October 2003

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

Calendar of Events

East Bay Chapter Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 1, 7:30 p.m., home of Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna Street, Berkeley

Native Here Nursery, p. 4

Fridays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Native Here Nursery open 9 a.m. to noon

Saturdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25, Native Here Nursery open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers and customers welcome.

Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28, 9 a.m., seed forays from Native Here Nursery

East Bay Chapter Sale of Native Plants, p. 2

Saturday October 4 and Sunday October 5 at Merritt College in Oakland

Membership Meeting, see below

Wednesday, October 22, 7:30 p.m., Regional Parks Botanic Garden

Field Trips, p. 4

Saturday, October 25, 10 a.m. **Plants in Fruit at Pine Mountain**

Saturday, November 1, 10 a.m., **Día de los Muertos Botanical Pilgrimage**

Membership Meeting

Issues in Native Plant Conservation: Perspectives from the California Native Plant Society

Speaker: **Dr. Emily Roberson**

Wednesday, October 22, 2003, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Visitor Center Auditorium, Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley (directions below)

Federal, state, and local politics affect opportunities to conserve and recover native plant species and communities in California and nationwide. Modifications of the National Forest Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Federal Endangered Species Act are only some of the policy changes that threaten the ability of the scientific community and the public to work cooperatively with resource and land management agencies to promote conservation and recovery. Political pressure to weaken or rescind land management tools such as the Sierra Nevada Framework also undermines efforts to protect plants and other resources.

Plant conservation and recovery work is also hampered by severe underfunding and chronic understaffing of Federal and state botany programs. Although plants make up the majority of the Federal endangered species list, recovery spending for listed plants lags far behind spending for other listed species. Federal agen-

cies employ absurdly few botanists to manage millions of acres of plant communities and hundreds of sensitive plant species on public lands.

These problems are being addressed in many ways by the native plant conservation community. Our speaker, Dr. Emily Roberson, will review how key policy developments in California and at the national level affect native plant conservation efforts. She will also provide an overview of the ways CNPS works with the scientific community, elected officials, agencies, and the public to address budgetary and policy barriers to plant conservation and recovery.

Emily Brin Roberson is Senior Policy Analyst for California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and Project Director for the Native Plant Conservation Campaign. She holds a bachelor's degree magna cum laude in plant ecology from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in soil microbial ecology from UC Berkeley. She worked as a researcher in the plant and soil sciences in the U.S. and France for 10 years before joining CNPS in 1993. Her work focuses on native plant conservation advocacy with federal and state land management agencies. She specializes in issues related to livestock management, weed management, riparian ecosystem conservation, and endangered species law and policy.

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East Bay Chapter CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting will take place in the Visitor Center Auditorium at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, located within Tilden Park in the Berkeley Hills. The Garden gate will open at 7:00 p.m.; the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica@earthlink.net.

Directions to the Regional Parks Botanic Garden:

From Contra Costa county and places east: Take Highway 24 westbound. Exit at Fish Ranch Road (just before the Caldecott Tunnel). At the end of the long offramp (at the stop sign), turn right on Fish Ranch Road. Continue up Fish Ranch Road about 3/4 mile. At the stop sign, turn right on Grizzly Peak Boulevard Continue 1.5 miles on Grizzly Peak Boulevard Turn right on South Park Drive (about 1/8 mile past the Steam Train). Continue 1.5 miles to the end of South Park Drive. Turn left again immediately, into the Garden's parking lot.

From the west, north, or south: Take Highway 24 eastbound and go through the Caldecott Tunnel. Immediately after leaving the tunnel, take the Fish Ranch Road exit. Follow the road as it turns to the right, crossing over the freeway. Continue up Fish Ranch Road about 3/4 mile. At the stop sign, turn right on Grizzly Peak Boulevard Continue 1.5 miles on Grizzly Peak Boulevard Turn right on South Park Drive (about 1/8 mile past the Steam Train). Continue 1.5 miles to the end of South Park Drive. Turn left on Wildcat Canyon Road. Turn left again immediately, into the Garden's parking lot.

The garden entrance is across the street from the parking lot. The Visitor Center is the building near the garden entrance. Restrooms are located in the parking lot. **If the parking lot is full,** continue a very short distance further on Wildcat Canyon Road to Anza View Road (a one-way street on the west side of the Garden). Turn right on Anza View Road. Park along the left side of Anza View Road.

Upcoming Programs

Wednesday, November 19, 7:30 p.m. (at the Orinda Library):

Ron Russo—Plant Galls of California

December:

No meeting (holiday break)

I've known rivers:

I've known rivers ancient as

the world and older than

the flow of human blood in human veins.

My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

Langston Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," 1926

October 4 and 5



Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Merritt College, Oakland

1255 Campus Drive, off Redwood Road

Before the Sale . . .

The plants are all in their places, awaiting your arrival. The hummingbirds and butterflies are checking out the flowers while we check the labels.

During the week leading up to the sale (Tuesday through Friday), last-minute tasks prevail and it's the best opportunity to preview the plants – and take part in a few easy chores too.

During the Sale . . .

Come early Saturday morning for a full selection. A plant list will be available. Also see the website.

Bring a wagon, boxes, and a friend for help in handling your plants. The holding area will be open to stash your plants. The loading zone crew will watch your plants while you retrieve your car.

After . . .

Our Tuesday work sessions resume:

October 7, 14, 21, 28

9 a.m. to noon

Merritt College

Landscape Horticulture, same location as the plant sale

Buy more plants . . .

Plants remaining after the big sale weekend may be purchased on Tuesday mornings until the end of February.

Shirley McPheeters

925-376-4095

"The civilized people of today look back with horror at their medieval ancestors who wantonly destroyed great works of art or sat slothfully by while they were destroyed. We have passed this stage . . . Here in the U.S. we turn our rivers and streams into sewers and dumping grounds, we pollute the air, we destroy our forests and exterminate fishes, birds and mammals - not to speak of vulgarizing charming landscapes with hideous advertisements. But at best it looks as if our people were awakening."

Theodore Roosevelt, "Outlook", June 25, 1913

Conservation Committee Report

What we did on our summer vacation

Committee members have been active on the conservation committee e-mail list server. It is a good way to communicate and to get assistance from the members of the plant science committees in responding to projects.

We have kept the corresponding secretary, Nathan Smith, busy with final drafts of comment letters and are grateful for the constant assistance of Sue Bainbridge, John Game and Dianne Lake in providing plant information that forms the scientific backbone for our comments and positions on these issues.

Development proposals, land use plans, and land management plans need to be examined with respect to preservation and conservation of native plants, especially rare plants and plant communities, but also plants that are unusual in our vicinity, and those native plant communities that are typical but diminishing in number and size.

East Contra Costa County has been in the process of forming a Habitat Conservation Plan. Dick VrMeer has represented CNPS on the Coordination Committee comprised of stakeholders lending input to the plan, and Sue Bainbridge has prepared comment letters on the botanical issues related to the plan.

The committee monitored the proposed expansion of the Carnegie Recreational Vehicle Area. A new Environmental Impact Report is due in November and will need to be scrutinized by the committee, and probably more comments will be required.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is preparing a Habitat Conservation Plan for the Alameda Creek watershed which includes portions of the East Bay Regional Park District's Sunol, Mission Peak and Ohlone Wilderness. Diane Lake prepared comments about the CEQA-protected plants in the area, and Laura Baker addressed the issue of habitat considerations for the interlocking parcels.

In response to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Draft Plan for the Recovery of Chaparral and Coastal Scrub Community Species, Laura Baker prepared comments that reviewed the potential impacts of the document's proposals on the coastal scrub community in Claremont Canyon. She made use of research conducted by the Point Reyes Bird Observatory coordinated with the Claremont Canyon Conservancy as well as information compiled by Sue Bainbridge on the differences among the various scrub and chaparral communities within our two-county area.

Gregg Weber has been busy attending meetings of Friends of Franklin Canyon, drafting letters after consulting with our plant science folks pointing out native plant concerns, and attending public meetings regarding planning for Franklin Canyon and Clark Road proposed development projects.

The cities of Livermore and Concord had General Plan Update processes in which we participated by submitting comments. Thanks go to Lisa Patterson for compiling comments on the Livermore General Plan.

The committee has been monitoring and commenting on the Altamont Landfill proposal as well. Chris Thayer and Heath Bartosh have provided additional botanical expertise to the work of the plant communities committee headed by Sue Bainbridge.

The chapter is concerned about the proposal by the Contra Costa Water District to destroy the mitigation done for the existing Los Vaqueros Reservoir and to construct a larger reservoir. The Water District has drafted a ballot measure for the March, 2004 ballot asking the public's advice on the matter. Eric Ettinger is attending meetings and following this issue closely for the chapter. The chapter board has allocated funds for preparation of educational materials concerning this ballot measure and proposal.

Each month more Notices of Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements, notices of general plan updates, city and county planning agency meetings, etc. arrive in the chapter's PO Box. Members are needed to help track development issues that could involve destruction of native plants and habitats in every jurisdiction within our two counties. If you are concerned about the fate of native plants in the wild near you, please contact the chapter about how to become a member of the conservation committee. The easiest way to do that is by e-mail to charlid@pacbell.net.

State CNPS is concerned, as we are in the East Bay Chapter, with training more of our members to respond to threats to native plants. At the September Chapter Council meetings September 12-14, workshops addressed conservation issues. Planning and Conservation League also can offer classes introducing volunteers to the CEQA process. CNPS Vegetation Ecologist Julie Evens gives training on vegetation assessment. Our own chapter field trips are a wonderful laboratory in plant identification and observation of distribution. Field work sessions of the Unusual Plant, Plant Communities, and Rare Plant Committees offer training as well. You do not have to be an expert to be of service to native plant conservation.

Charli Danielsen

Field Trips

Plants in Fruit at Pine Canyon

Saturday, October 25, 10:00 a.m.

According to Mark Twain, a riverboat pilot once described his job as piloting four rivers, not one: the Mississippi in the daytime, the Mississippi at night, and that piloting the river upstream and downstream was navigating two different rivers again. For a similar reason, Kevin Hintsu is leading a return visit to **Pine Canyon in Mount Diablo State Park**, but first-time visitors don't have to worry about missing the April trip. Except for the odd-blooming *zauschnerias* and asters, most of the plants on this trip will be in fruit, and present a very different face to the hikers from the same plants in flower. The route through Pine Canyon will traverse both riparian (red and arroyo willows, Fremont cottonwoods) and mixed oak forest (blue, valley, black, and coast live oaks plus Pacific madrone). Weather permitting, bigleaf maple, California grape, and poison oak, may provide some fall color. This field trip will also take in migrant birds along the trail, perhaps some late butterflies, and will include a stop at Pine Pond to view red-legged frogs. For those who remember Barbara's April field trip, note that this one will last a half or two thirds of a day, and the distance will cover 4 or 5 miles, with a modest elevation gain. Bring plenty of water, lunch, and binoculars for better wildlife viewing.

Directions: Take 24 east to its junction with 680. Take the Ygnacio Valley Road exit, which is the very first exit at the 24/680 junction. From Walnut Creek, follow Ygnacio Valley Road east to Walnut Avenue (not Walnut Boulevard) and turn right. At the traffic roundabout, take Oak Grove Road south, bypassing North Gate Road and continuing to the end of Castle Rock Road.

Día de los Muertos Botanical Pilgrimage

Saturday, November 1, 10:00 a.m.

This year CNPS will once again celebrate Día de los Muertos, the traditional day for remembering and honoring deceased relatives, with a pilgrimage to the gravesites of some of our botanical "ancestors" who have been laid to rest locally. The pilgrimage to Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland will be led by Barbara Ertter, who will weave the personal stories of the botanists whose gravesites we visit into an overall history of the early years of California botany. Albert Kellogg, John G. Lemmon, Sarah Plummer Lemmon, and Volney Rattan are among the botanists buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, whose gravesites will be visited. Meet at the entrance to Mountain View Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. Drivers may wish to park just outside the gate, because construction just inside the cemetery entrance has taken up some parking.

Directions: For mass transit users, take the 51 AC Transit bus south from Rockridge BART, and get off at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Broadway. Then walk south past the Rockridge shopping center light on Pleasant Valley Road, and turn left and walk to the cemetery entrance from the second traffic light at Piedmont Ave. and Pleasant Valley Road. From Highway 13 in either direction, exit at Thornhill/Moraga Ave. and follow Moraga Avenue downhill (generally southwest) to its end, at the traffic light on Pleasant Valley Road. Turn right onto Pleasant Valley Road, and continue one block uphill to the traffic light at Pleasant Valley Road and Piedmont Avenue. Turn right onto Piedmont and follow it one block to the cemetery entrance. From 580 northbound, exit at Harrison Street/Oakland Avenue; the exit ramp becomes MacArthur Boulevard. Follow MacArthur straight until its intersection with Piedmont Avenue (another traffic light). Turn right onto Piedmont and follow it slowly and straight, through all traffic lights and Sunday traffic, to the entrance to Mountain View Cemetery.

Janet Gawthrop

Native Here Nursery

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Fridays: 9 a.m. to noon
Native Here Nursery open. Volunteers and customers welcome.

October 4, 11, 18, 25, Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Native Here Nursery open. Volunteers and customers welcome.

October 7, 14, 21, 28, Tuesdays: 9 a.m.
Tuesday seed forays from Native Here Nursery.

The calendar says it's fall. Even if it is still hot and dry in October, the cooler weather and fall rains are not far off. It is safe to purchase shrubs and perennials and to plan to put them in the ground when true fall arrives. The little *Iris douglasiana* you have been waiting for will be out on the sales floor this month. There are some neat surprises in the tree/shrub line, too. Our selection is quite varied due to a wonderful 2002 seed collection year.

Seed collection Tuesdays will go through October with the 28th our very last one of the year. Meet at the golf course parking lot across from the nursery at 9 a.m. any Tuesday. Many of the trips are close enough that we return by 1 p.m., but occasionally we will plan a longer foray. If time is a concern, check the week before. E-mail is best: charlid@pacbell.net. Want to see what you've been missing? Janice Bray has posted some pictures from the seed hikes on the chapter web site. Check them out. Native Here is at 101 Golf Course Drive

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in Tilden Park. Follow the signs to the Golf Course and look across the road for our driveway up the hill.

Can you spare some time Saturday mornings to help Margot with customers? Volunteers are always welcome to join in whenever the nursery is open. Once familiar with nursery routines, volunteers may come in on their own schedule to help with watering, weeding and nursery production. There is always plenty to do at Native Here!

Charli Danielsen

Fall and Winter Gardening in the Bay Area

A gardening seminar presented by the **Alameda County Master Gardeners**

October 18, 9 to 2:30 p.m. at Merritt College

Classes include: **Fall & Winter Vegetable Gardening** by Pam Peirce, author of *Golden Gate Gardening*, **Beautiful Gardens, Healthy Environment** presented by Annie Joseph, **Water Wise Gardening, Native Gardening** with Glen Schneider. Composting demonstrations. There will be 6 sessions to choose from. Seminar is \$25 including box lunch. For more information or to receive a brochure, please call Alameda County Master Gardeners at 510-639-1366.



Legenere limosa, shown here from the Sacramento Valley, is a rare annual plant of vernal pools and low natural wetlands, related to *Downingia*. It is a California endemic and is known from one site in our area, in the Ohlone Wilderness. It was re-observed there this year by Dianne Lake and others during an unusual plant survey. It has white flowers less than a quarter of an inch across. The name *Legenere* is an anagram of the name of botanist E. L. Greene. Photo and caption by John Game.

37th Annual Plant Sale
East Bay Chapter
California Native Plant Society

Saturday October 4th, 9 am to 3 pm
Sunday October 5th, 9 am to 1 pm
Merritt College
Oakland

Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:

Tony Morosco, c/o Callflora, 937 San Pablo Ave., Albany 94706
w/528-5426, tony-morosco@callflora.org

Vice President, Administration:

Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687,
elaïnejx@mindspring.com

Treasurer:

Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040

Secretaries:

Recording:

Laura Baker, 79 Roble Road, Berkeley, 94705, 849-1409,
Lbake@aol.com

Corresponding:

Nathan Smith, 545 Everett St, El Cerrito, 94530, 559-8286,
ncsmith@uclink.berkeley.edu

Past President

Barbara Ertter, 1859 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, h/526-4592, w/
643-0600

Bay Leaf Editor

Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681,
pepe1066@comcast.net

Committee Coordinators

Bay Leaf Mailing:

Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040,
hforbes@uclink4.berkeley.edu

Book and Poster Sales:

Vacant

Bryophytes:

Dan Norris, 802 Lexington Ave., El Cerrito 94530, 435-2004,
dhnorris@uclink.berkeley.edu

Conservation:

Vacant

East Bay Public Lands:

Peter Rauch, 526-8155, peterr@socrates.berkeley.edu

Education:

Vacant

Field Trips:

Janet Gawthrop, 360 Monte Vista Ave. #214, Oakland 94610, 654
3066, _janetg24@excite.com

Grants:

Sandy McCoy, 1311 Bay View Place, Berkeley 94708,
wbmccoy@earthlink.net

Committee Coordinators

Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson, 440 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 94563, 925-254-3675

Media:

Elizabeth Bade, 2151 Carrol Rd., Walnut Creek 94596, 937-8006

Membership:

Delia Taylor, 1851 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, 527-3912,
deliataylor@mac.com

Native Here Nursery:

Charli Danielsén, 101 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley 94708, 549-0211,
charlid@pacbell.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:

Sarah Ginskey, 1096 Miller Avenue, Berkeley 94708, 510-558-8139,
sawginskey@sbcglobal.net

Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge, 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704, 548-2918,
suebain@SSCL.Berkeley.EDU

Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters, 104 Ivy Dr., Orinda 94563, 925-376-4095
Phoebe Watts, 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703, 525-6614,
phoebewatts@cs.com

Plant Sale Publicity:

Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687

Posters:

Vacant

Programs:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornia@earthlink.net

Rare Plants:

John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855

Regional Parks Botanic Garden Liaison:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornia@earthlink.net

Unusual Plants:

Dianne Lake, 1050 Bayview Farm Rd. #121, Pinole 94564, 741-8066,
diannelake@yahoo.com

Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: www.cnps.org

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:

www.ebcnps.org

Bay Leaf &

Board meeting minutes online

Chapter CNPS-EB-Alerts E-mail List:

Find out more; email to listserv@usobi.org with:

INFO CNPS-EB Alerts

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

(optional)

I wish to affiliate with:

____ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

____ Other _____

Membership category:

____ Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

____ Individual, Library, \$35

____ Household, Family, or Group, \$45

____ Supporting, \$75

____ Plant lover, \$100

____ Benefactor, \$500

____ Life, \$1000

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816

East Bay Chapter California Native Plant Society

Ballot for 2004 Officers

Each year, the chapter holds an election for the officers who will serve the chapter the following year. There is considerable time and effort involved in each of these offices. Although there is only one candidate for each office, please cast your vote of support for these dedicated volunteers.

Ballots are due by November 3, 2003. They may be mailed to the Chapter address: P O Box 5597, Elmwood Station, Berkeley, CA 94705, OR you may save a stamp by placing your ballot in the box provided at the Plant Sale or October Membership Meeting.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| President: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Presides over chapter board meetings, represents the chapter on CNPS Chapter Council, and to the general public.
Joe Willingham |
| Vice President: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Acts as alternate and back-up for the president, shares administrative duties.
Laura Baker |
| Recording Secretary: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Responsible for minutes and meeting notices.
Barbara Malloch Leitner |
| Corresponding Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Responsible for all correspondence to and from the chapter.
Nathan Smith |
| Treasurer: | <input type="checkbox"/> | Responsible for treasury and financial records.
Holly Forbes |

California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705

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